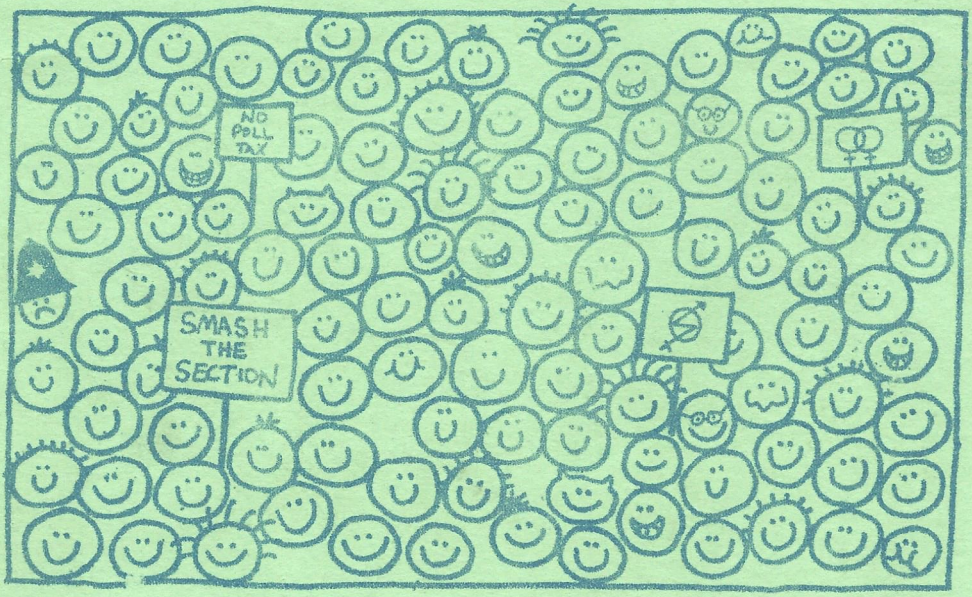
PEACE OF MIND

ISSUE FOUR

TWENTY PENCE



SQUATTING, STONEHENGE 88, HUNT SABBING, SECTION 28, ORGANIC GARDENING AND MORE

PEACE OF MIND

John and/or Ravenheart,
c/o 14 Medway, Fulwood,
Preston, Lancs. PR2 4UY.

HELLO THERE and welcome to PoM 4. I've no idea how long it'll be until I do another issue as I'm starting an environmental science course at Norwich Uni and I might have to do some work. Also there might be delays in answering letters while I'm sorting myself out. Anyway, if there are any Ⓐ types (or anyone else) around the Norwich area feel free to get in touch...

Next bit now...,

What with the way things are going at the moment - Section 28, the Poll Tax, ever increasing police powers - to name just a few, it can be all too easy to think of what we're doing as just opposing oppression and exploitation. This is of course essential but it shouldn't be what we're all about, we should also be building some kind of alternative to what we're fighting. Hopefully in a small way fanzines like this show the sort of thing I mean. For example in here there's some stuff about squatting which is not only a way of showing opposition to rich landlords and petty bureaucracy but is also a way of taking control of our own needs, doing something for ourselves rather then waiting for those in authority to do it for us (in a way which suits them not us). If we apply this to other situations we begin to get a picture of what people can achieve if they put their minds to it. For me, this quote sums it all up...

"When we create a new way of life with
love as it's basis, our only limits are
our imaginations".

See you next time folks, lots of love, John

THANX TO... Brench, Wack, Bob, Colin, Dave M, Yan Tree, Russ, anyone we've nicked bits from, everyone at Roobarb and Black Cat, Gaynor, all the rest of Preston A's, Jenny, Graham, Tin Tin and Snowy, Paula Dibb, Chris, Witney, Tommy, and everyone that sells PoM for us.

PoM 4 PRINTED AUG/SEPT 88 ON RECYCLED PAPER.

JUST DOING THEIR JOB

Preston Hunts Sabs first outing was an eventful occasion, we went on a grouse shoot sab on the "glorious" 12th on the North Yorkshire moors. Unfortunately, I for one saw more police than grouse shooters that day as once again they proved that their real job is to protect the interests of the rich.

On the plus side we (over 100 sabs in all) disrupted the mornings shooting, saving some birds at least, although apparantly six hunters managed a shoot in the afternoon - mainly due to unnecessary police interference.

But the sabs had not bargained for the police using special emergency powers to prevent a breach of the peace on Peel land. Alerted by the head gamekeeper, Brian Burrows, 13 police vans and cars arrived and implemented a strategy worked out with Lord Peel and the hunters.

In a swift movement, the road off the moors was blocked by police trapping most of the saboteurs' vehicles. Others were stopped entering the area and the marksmen were eventually given a police escort on a different route up on to the grouse moors.

The police maintained that they were taking a neutral stance and were only interested in keeping the peace.

After a morning trudging around the moors we returned to our van. But when we tried to leave the moors we, along with several other vans, came up against a police roadblock. The law concerning roadblocks is clear - they can only take place if there are "reasonable grounds" to suspect a "serious arrestable offence" has been commited, or witnessed, or is about to be commited. A serious arrestable offence is one which would recieve a sentence of 5 years or more in court. Not only was it obvious that no such offences were suspected, the police stated several times that this roadblock was to prevent a breach of the peace (a relatively minor offence) that they suspected might happen if we were allowed past. Clearly this was an illegal roadblock and it was obvious to anyone there that the intention was to keep us trapped while the shoot was allowed to go on, yet they claim to be impartial!

There seems to be very little we can do in such situations, tempting though it is to bop one of them, you'd only end up nicked. And few people are prepared to go through with a court case, although it certainly causes the police a lot of hassle, and should make them think twice before they try anything next time. But more importantly we must step up our action and show we won't be put off by intimidation. I'm still angry about this and the many other examples of police oppression, but it's important not to let anger be my sole motivation for action. What seperates us from those we're fighting against is that we care about each other and our planet, and that's why we're going to win.

Up and down the country, the story was the same. Saboteurs managed to wreck some shoots while others went ahead as planned. In England and Scotland up to a quarter of a million grouse will be flushed out of the heather moors and shot out of the skies over the next four months.

An elderly Yorkshireman walking his dog went up to the saboteurs to make his feelings plain.

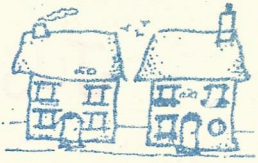
"There are not many other birds here now," he told them. "They are shooting everything, even merlins. A peregrine was killed just over there about a week ago."

Lord Peel waved aside the saboteurs' raid at Gunnerside. It was, he said, "a mild inconvenience by misguided idiots".

THE INDEPENDANT

SQUATTING

A SOLUTION NOT A PROBLEM



There are millions of homeless people in Britain, and the numbers are rising. The recent changes in Housing Benefit make it almost impossible to get a bond or rent in advance from the DHSS and the fair rent scheme has been abolished. Landlords can now charge extortionate rents for run down houses, and young or unemployed people will now find it even harder to find somewhere to live.

With this being the year of Shelter for the Homeless, the media has often reported on the thousands of young people who live in emergency hostels or sleep rough in the major cities. But amongst all this publicity, nowhere have I seen the major alternative - squatting, shown in a positive way.

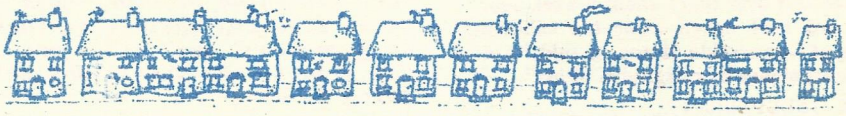
There are millions of empty houses, flats and offices in Britain, often houses are left empty while awaiting demolition or renovation. Landlords sometimes leave their properties empty to avoid paying rates while waiting for house prices to rise, or even because they forget about them. Whatever the reason, why should people be denied shelter and a home while houses are left rotting? A place to live is a human right, not a privilege, and peoples needs should come before profit.

Contrary to the popular myths about squatting, we do not take over other peoples homes while they are on holiday or out shopping, we don't want to make other people homeless, and it is illegal to take houses which are already being occupied. We use houses which are left empty and wasted.

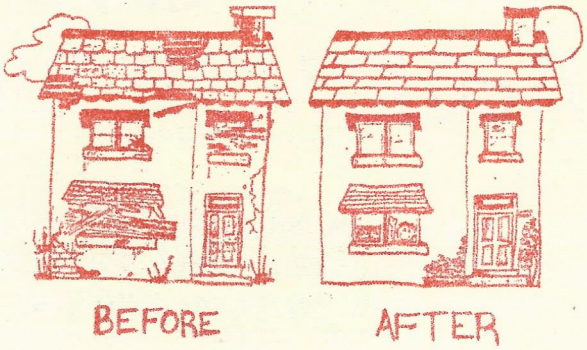
It is NOT illegal to squat - it is a civil offence between the owner and the occupiers. Once you are in a squat and have control over entry into the house (in practical terms this means changing the locks), you are the legal occupier, and can only be legally evicted by being taken to court. We can get gas and electricity accounts and pay rates like any other householder.

Many councils and private landlords wreck their own houses to prevent squatters moving in. Ripping up floorboards, pouring cement down drains, smashing toilets etc is not uncommon. We spend a lot of time, energy, and money making houses habitable.

A new development in this area is where a group of people form a housing co-op and make an agreement with a local housing association, whereby they live in the housing associations houses which are waiting to have work done on them. In one case I know of, the people do not have to pay any rent, but as they are a housing co-op, they can claim rent allowance and use it to do up the houses. They could stay in a particular house for a few weeks up to a year or more, and then hopefully they would be offered...



SQUATTING



...another house. This is good from the Associations point of view, as it means that their houses are safe from vandals, and good from ours, because it is like squatting but without getting any hassle!

Squatting is a way of taking back control over our housing needs and way of life. Most squats I know of are shared by a group young people, with no-one being the head of the house, but everyone sharing equal responsibility.

POLICE PURGE ON SQUATTERS IN LEEDS

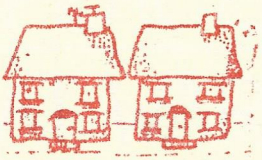
On the 18th of February, 1988, a Leeds squat was illegally evicted by the police, and the seven occupants arrested and charged with criminal damage. Their posessions were thrown out into the street and retrieved by some neighbours and stored in their cellar. This house was also a squat. The police went to this house to search it, without a warrant, and threatened to arrest the occupants if they did not co-operate. They confiscated a large amount of literature, posters and personal belongings, and arrested the three occupants for conspiracy to cause criminal damage. The three were held for 28 hours and released without charge.

The first group of people who had been arrested had their charges changed to illegally obtaining electricity and were remanded for a week for having posession of a 'substantial amount of left-wing literature'. During this time, they were questioned about A.L.F. animal rights activities - what is the connection? Other people who went to visit them were also questioned about this. It seems that the charge of theft of electricity was an afterthought, the police have warned that they are going to run squatters out of the area.

STAMFORD HILL ESTATE, LONDON

On March 9th, 1988, the squatted Stamford Hill council housing estate in Stoke Newington was evicted in a mass operation by bailiffs and police. More than 370 people were made homeless and hundreds of supporters gathered to help resist the evictions, some of which were carried out illegally. For publicity, the council claimed that the flats were to be offered to homeless families on the council waiting list, but apparantly this has not happened. Hackney council have spent over £1,000,000 in the last year on "security screens" (steel doors) to prevent homeless people living in the houses and flats that the council have neglected to put to use.

Raven



CARMINE PINK

CARMINE PINK needs all kinds of women! Carmine Pink was set up in '85 to provide a support network for creative women and to encourage exploration of creative expression in all women; also to promote greater visibility and accessibility for the work of creative women. We're looking for area contacts from all parts of the country (UK) plus a group of women prepared to take on our proposed newsletter.

Women in London: Carmine Pink is moving to London and we need your active involvement. You don't have to be 'creative', just practical!- and willing... and keen to make a commitment to our aims plus a consistant amount of time to spare regularly. Ring A.W.P. 01-836 6081, or Carol 0932-248652 or Jean 0865-771378 for info. New catalogue of cards, posters, writing paper, re-use labels etc, and/or info of any sort: SAE please to- Carmine Pink(PM), c/o A.W.P, Hungerford House, Victoria Embankment, London. WC2N CPA.

The TRANSNATIONAL INFORMATION CENTRE having produced a report - "Working for Big Mac" have been issued with a writ by McDonalds because they didn't like what the report said, even though it was the result of careful research and first hand experience. TICL intend to fight the case fully but it has cost £2000 already and could cost over £40 000 depending on how far McD take it. To donate money to the fighting fund or for more info on the case, contact TICL, 9 Poland Street, London, W1V 3DG. The report costs £1 (& SAE) and is worth getting. Cheques payable to TICL.

FREE MARTIN FORAN.

MARTIN FORAN was sentenced to 8 years in prison for a robbery he didn't commit. His appearance fits none of the 3 descriptions given by the publican who was robbed and Martin has 15 statements confirming his alibi. While in prison he became ill and was refused treatment until he had to be rushed to hospital where a colostomy was performed. He had to take a prison officer hostage to get this treatment and was sentenced to an extra 6 years for this. Three weeks after his operation he was beaten up by prison officers and his colostomy was wrenched off. His condition continued to worsen until he agreed to have a total colostomy operation, although naturally he is worried about the operation and prison treatment afterwards. I'm not sure at the moment if he is going to have the operation or not. For the latest news about Martin write to BCM/FORAN, London, WC1N 3XX. (New address). Donations are needed to help publicise his case. Letters of support to Martin Foran C51796, HMP Parkhurst, Newport, Isle of Wight, PO30 5NX. Letters of protest to the Governor of Parkhurst at the same address.

WE CAN'T SIT BACK AND ALLOW THE STATE TO DO THIS BEHIND CLOSED DOORS.

RECORDS FULL OF LOVE
BUT THE WORLD'S FULL OF HATE

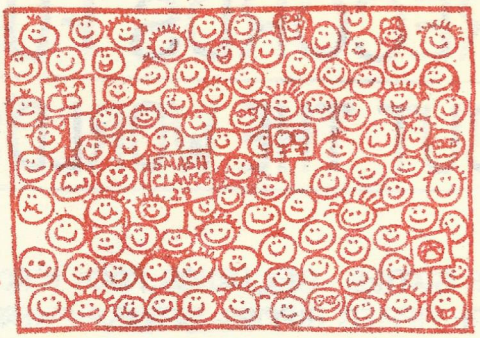
THE SIXTIES - SEX, DRUGS, ROCK 'N' ROLL, VIETNAM, WOODSTOCK, LOVE
DOPE, YIPPIES, HIPPIES, BEADS, FLOWERS, BEATLES, STONES AND MONKEES
THE SEVENTIES - ANARCHY, CHAOS, CAMBODIA, GLASTONBURY, SPEED, BEER
PUNKS, DRUNKS, BONDAGE, LEATHER, NOISE, PISTOLS, VIBRATORS AND JAM
THE EIGHTIES - COKE, SMACK, CRACK, HIP HOP, SCRATCH, FALKLANDS, LIVE AID
COCKTAILS, CASUALS, YUPPIES, TRENDIES, FRANKIE, MADONNA AND MADNESS

THIRTY YEARS OF THE SAME OLD SHIT
OF MUSIC, MONEY, HIT AFTER HIT
SMILES, LIES, SALES, WALLS
THAT'S THIRTY YEARS OF ROCK AND ROLL

SIXTIES, SEVENTIES, EIGHTIES, NINETIES, HUNDREDS OF RECORDS FOR EVERY OCCAISION. METAL, SOUL, THRASH, DISCO, HIP HOP, SCRATCH, PUNK YOU NAME IT, THEY'VE GOT IT. RECORDED, MIXED, PRESSED AND WRAPPED ALL COURTESY OF EMI. SIXTIES, SEVENTIES, EIGHTIES, NINETIES, HUNDREDS OF WEAPONS FOR EVERY OCCAISION. GUNS, BOMBS, TANKS, MISSILES YOU NAME IT, THEY'VE GOT IT. DESIGNED, MANUFACTURED AND PACKAGED ALL COURTESY OF EMI. RECORDS OF PEACE. WEAPONS OF WAR. STREETS FULL OF VIOLENCE. SONGS FULL OF LOVE. LOVE SONGS TO FINANCE THE BLOODY ARMS TRADE. BLOODY RECORDS, BLOODY WEAPONS. MUSIC FOR PLEASURE. MUSIC FOR PAIN. RELAX. IMAGINE. WAR IS OVER (IF YOU WANT IT)

RECORDS FULL OF PEACE
BUT THE WORLD IS AT WAR

NEVER GOING UNDERGROUND



Despite Mr James Andertons scathing attacks on gay men and women, 20-25,000 proud gay people marched through the streets of Manchester on the 20th February, 1988. The colourful procession was a statement against the erosion of civil liberties, and should be of concern to everybody. It was the biggest march ever for gay rights in Britain, and the later march in London on 30th April, 1988 was almost twice as large. The feelings there were positive and caring, there were no arrests and the few police present kept a low profile. The march included people from all walks of life, old and young, gay and straight.

The march was in opposition to Clause 28, which has now been passed as law. It prohibits the "intentional promotion of homosexuality by local councils, and the phrase is so vague it can be interpreted as the individual councils wish. This means that council funding for lesbian/gay projects, helplines, youth workers, clubs etc will be illegal. Alternative bookshops stocking 'offending' books may lose council subsidies, and many library books will have to be removed.

Obviously the aim of this is to drive homosexuality back underground and encourage the post-AIDS new morality, with a leaning towards Victorian values and 'the family'. But without positive images of being gay, how can we combat the constant negative distorted images portrayed in the media and elsewhere? Many of the projects which will be stopped are self-help groups, like gay helplines, for the mutual support of gay men and women.

Gay men are often blamed for being the cause of the AIDS epidemic, the "gay plague". This is ridiculous - in Africa, AIDS has always been a heterosexual problem, like it is becoming here. There is also evidence to suggest AIDS originated in a military laboratory, but that's another story! This anti-gay propaganda, plus the ignorance and prejudice which will come from Clause 28 (now Section 28) will lead to another "queer bashing" society. Gay men and women will be risking their jobs and friends by coming out into the open about their sexuality.

Be a collectivist when defending others.

One thing that interests me is that positive images of .....

NEVER GOING UNDERGROUND

and an individualist when defending yourself

.....homosexuality are being banned in school. You can't teach someone to be gay, I believe we all have the capability to be gay. What we should do in schools is encourage someone to explore their own sexuality without fear of recrimination or isolation. Think what it is like for a teenager to grow up knowing they are gay, but never being given any assurance, even from teachers, that they are not perverted and sick. Think how alone they must feel.

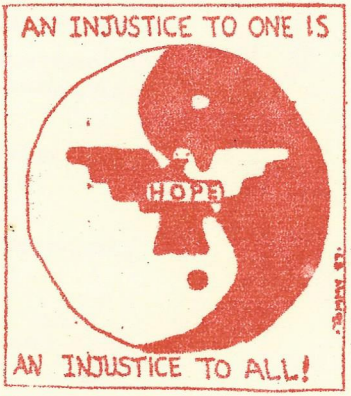
The liberation of sexuality has moved beyond the "free love" of the 60's, which wasn't very free at all, by all accounts. Learning to openly acknowledge feelings of love for other men and women, not just based on physical desire, but love and respect for the whole person. Hugging and kissing friends to show affection doesn't have to be sexual, but it goes against all the conditioning of society.

On an earlier Clause 28 march in London, two women were arrested for kissing in public. Presumably the police said it was offensive. What I find offensive is that a society built on violence, war, greed and hate reacts with horror when two people of the same sex touch each other affectionately.

The thing that moved me most about the Manchester march was the positive energy everyone carried. It was an amazing day, and whatever the political effectiveness of marches, it's certainly very empowering to be with so many other people with the same beliefs.

Gay rights are human rights. Mrs Thatcher has said she doesn't want people growing up thinking they have "an inalienable right to be gay". We are not a silent minority who will disappear with legislation, we won't go back into hiding.

Raven



USEFUL CONTACTS:

London Lesbian and Gay Switchboard.
24 hrs, 7 days a week.
Often busy, keep trying.
01-837 7324

GLAD (Gay Legal Advice).
Box BM/GLAD, London, WC1N 3XX.
Monday - Friday, 7pm - 10pm.
01-2532043

VARIOUS THINGS...

P.O. BOX 172 is where it's all happening in Preston at the moment...Preston A's, Squatters, Animal Rights and Hunt Sab groups, Anti-Fascist Action, Preston Music Collective, details of gigs and Preston bands and anything else we can think up can all be contacted through P.O. Box 172, Preston, Lancs. PR1 7BU.

ANARCHY, PEAS and CHIPS no. 1 is a benefit zine for the Preston Music Collective. It's been written, put together and printed by various "members" of the collective so it's pretty varied with articles on fascism, Section 28, squatting, reports on the Manchester punks picnic and Avon free festival, interviews with Feed Your Head and Chumbawamba, with loads of other bits and pieces. It's well worth sending 25p & SAE to P.O. Box 172 for a copy.
Incidently the Preston Music Collective aims to set up a place for bands to rehearse, record and play. Contact the same address if you're interested.

PETE PAX has a new benefit tape out, all profits to "Black Flag", an anarchist paper who are having serious money problems at the moment. The tape is called "A jerk off in the face of capital" and costs a quid (including booklet). Write to Pete Pax, c/o "1 in 12 Club", 21-23 Albion Street, Bradford 1, W. Yorks.

PRESTON ALTERNATIVE POETS are looking out for more poetry for future issues of their mag. Contributions to Christine Billington, 23 Lyndhurst Drive, Savick, Preston. PR2 1TA. Issue one costs 75p & SAE from this address.

DIY NOT EMI

HANDS OFF THE WORLD

A BENEFIT TAPE FOR THE FREE INFORMATION NETWORK

Tree Of Life
Radio Mongol*a
Anarka & Poppy
Space Pirates
Abreaction
+ LOTS MORE C90

£2.00 + S.A.E from

BOX 172, PRESTON PR1

THE picture on the back cover is available as an A3 poster on coloured paper. write to Box 184, 32 Call Lane, Leeds, LS1 6DT with an SAE (and donation to cover costs please) if you want one.
Also, Ravenheart and Yan Tree (can you believe these names?) have done a poem/arty booklet which will be out by now, with personal/political poems and arty farty pictures! 20p & SAE from the same address.

TALKING of posters, I've been getting together a collection of political posters suitable for flypposting, so send a stamp if you want copies of them. And if anyone has any decent posters (A4 or A3) I'd be really grateful if you'd send a copy to the PoM address. Ta.

LOVE OVER LAW have produced a tape and booklet called "This world we must leave" which is available for £1.80 (including p&p) from 126a North Road, Westcliff On Sea, Essex. SS0 7AG.

ALWAYS WRAP CASH UP WELL WHEN SENDING FOR STUFF

DO YOU SEE "DERELICT" LAND AND THINK WHAT A WASTE? IT'S SURPRISING JUST HOW MUCH THERE IS. ALSO "LANDSCAPED" AREAS OF GRASSLAND. I KNOW OF SOME ALLOTMENTS NEARBY THAT WERE GRASSED OVER AND LANDSCAPED IN THIS WAY WHILE THE WAITING LIST FOR ALLOTMENTS IS TWO YEARS OR MORE! I HAVE HAD TO WAIT THREE YEARS FOR MINE. WITHOUT MONEY, LAND IS LIKE MOST OTHER THINGS – OUT OF REACH.

THIS IS WRONG!

LAND IS FOR TAKING CARE OF AND SHARING. THE BEST PEOPLE FOR DOING THAT ARE SADLY, NOT OFTEN THE ONES WHO CAN AFFORD IT. IN THE NAME OF MONEY, PROFIT/GREED - LAND IS LOST TO UGLY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT; MOTORWAYS AND OTHER ROADS FOR THE MONOPOLY USE OF CARS; PROPERTY SPECULATORS AND AGRIBUSINESS. BEAUTIFUL, PRODUCTIVE LAND – RUINED.

WHAT CAN WE DO ABOUT IT? WELL – AGAINST GREAT FINANCIAL ODDS, PEOPLE OVER THE COUNTRY HAVE SET UP CITY FARMS/COMMUNITY GARDENS – AND SUCCEEDED. THEY ARE UP AGAINST COUNCILS WHO SEE THEM MERELY AS STOPGAP SCHEMES UNTIL GOOD OLD INDUSTRY COMES ALONG. THEY ARE SUBJECT TO THE WHIMS OF SUCH BACKING AS M.S.C. AND E.E.C. THEY CANNOT AS A RESULT PROVIDE MANY FULL-TIME JOBS WHICH WOULD ENABLE PEOPLE TO WORK IN A HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT INSTEAD OF BEING STUFFED INSIDE A FACTORY OR OFFICE. I FIND THEM VERY INSPIRING THOUGH, FOR ALL THEIR PROBLEMS, AND WOULD LOVE TO HEAR FROM ANYONE WHO SHARES THESE FEELINGS FOR THE LAND. I HAVE READ A VERY GOOD BOOK ABOUT RECLAIMING WASTED LAND – CALLED "THE CLANDESTINE FARMER" – BY ANTHONY WIGENS. FROM:- COUNTRY COLLEGE, 10 HAMILTON ROAD, ALFORD, LINCS., LN13 9HD.

ALSO:- NATIONAL FEDERATION OF CITY FARMS,
THE OLD VICARAGE,
66 FRASER STREET,
WINDMILL HILL, BEDMINSTER,
BRISTOL BS3 4LY.
AND:-
CONTACT – PAULA DIBB,
89 BURNLEY ROAD,
CLAYTON-LE-MOORS,
LANCS. BB5 5TW

BUILDING THE WALL

TO THEIR PATRIARCH PRISON

ANGRY YOUNG MEN
ANGRY YOUNG SABS
DEFENSIVE AND PROUD
SLAVES TO THE LAST
BUILDING THE WALL
TO THEIR PATRIARCH PRISON
SOUND-PROOFING THEIR MINDS
TOO STUBBORN TO LISTEN.

EQUALITY RULES
IN THE MIND OF THE MALE
IN THE EYES OF THE WIMMIN
EQUALITY FAILS
FREEDOM AND JUSTICE
PREVAILS IN THE VAN
THE PERFECT ALLIANCE
IN THE EYES OF THE MAN

LAST YEAR, MEN AGAINST SEXIST SHIT (MASS) PRODUCED A LEAFLET CALLED 'IT'S A MAN'S GAME' WHICH QUESTIONED MALE POWER WITHIN HUNT SAB GROUPS. MUCH OF THE RESPONSE TO THIS CAME FROM MALE SABOTEURS WHO FELT THAT THE SUGGESTIONS OF MALE DOMINATION AND SEXISM WITHIN 'THEIR' GROUP WERE UNFOUNDED AND OFFENSIVE. IN CONTRAST TO THIS, ALL THE WIMMIN SABOTEURS WHO WROTE TO MASS WERE PLEASED TO SEE MEN WHO WERE PREPARED TO RECOGNISE AND CONFRONT THEIR OWN SEXISM. MANY MEN REFUSE TO ACCEPT THAT SEXISM EXISTS AND MOST ARE UNABLE TO SEE THEMSELVES AS THE CAUSE. THE FACT IS THAT MEN, NOT BEING ON THE RECEIVING END OF THEIR OWN SEXISM, ARE QUITE OFTEN TOO IGNORANT TO NOTICE IT OR TOO ARROGANT TO CONFRONT IT. IT'S THE WIMMIN SABS WHO BEAR THE BRUNT OF MEN'S SEXISM YET IT'S THE MEN WHO CLAIM IT DOESN'T EXIST. SEXISM EXISTS WITHIN ALL MEN AND WILL DO UNTIL ALL MEN ARE PREPARED TO RECOGNISE IT AND CONFRONT IT. MEN AGAINST SEXIST SHIT ARE A GROUP OF MEN COMMITTED TO CONFRONTING SEXISM WHEREVER AND WHENEVER IT ARISES, WITHIN THEMSELVES OR WITHIN OTHER MEN. THEY DO NOT CLAIM TO HAVE ALL THE ANSWERS BUT THEY ARE AT LEAST ASKING THE QUESTIONS.

MASS, BOX 25, 52 CALL LANE, LEEDS, WEST YORKSHIRE, LS1 6DT

THE NURSERY - 1992

Mary had a little lamb
Full of uranium dust
It went to school with her one day
Sandwiched in a crust

Mary Mary quite contrary
How does your garden grow
With acid rain and lead fumes
And pretty trees, dead in a row

Here we go round the mulberry bush
The mulberry bush full of lust
Here we go round the mulberry bush
On a wild night in the morning

Jack Spratt could eat no fat
And his wife could eat no lean
Bursting with cholestasis
Their innerds are obscene

Run rabbit run rabbit run run run
Don't let that needle your senses stun
We'll get by without a zoonomy
So run rabbit run run run

I had a little nut tree
Nothing would it bear
But a weeping willow
With tears of despair

Christine Billington

ON NUCLEAR POWER

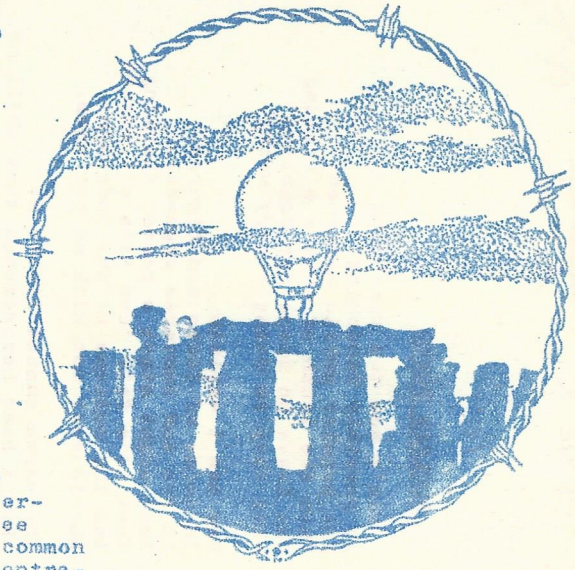
I can't see the reasoning
In possibly condoning
The popular public agreement
When the truth of what i'm feeling
Can leave no scope for doubting
What they're doing's very wrong.

How can i explain
In terms of facts and figures
In pro and converse arguments
That might start a person thinking
That it's fair 'cos it's not biased
And the outcome of the judgement
Should rest not with me but them.

The earth cannot lie to me
When i hear her screams they chill me
If we search for the truth in our heads alone
We'll forever be decieving
So let's be guided by our feelings
And in our hearts the truth be known.

Witney

STONEHENGE 88



This is my account of the summer pilgrimage to Stonehenge to celebrate the summer solstice. In some ways the festival was a success, but in others it was a dismal failure, ending in a bloody confrontation with the police.

It was a success that about 2000 people were "allowed" to gather on the main site - Cholderton Woods, and hold a free festival. The woods are common land, and confused and contradictory police attempts to evict us failed. They were implementing part of the public order act, devised especially to try to stop groups of travellers staying together. No damage was done to the woods - there was plenty of dead firewood around, but a neighbouring barley field was trampled underfoot.

On the Monday evening, stages were assembled on the site and a few bands played into the night. The friendly, optimistic atmosphere of the day continued as we all set off at midnight to walk the 6 miles to the stones.

The police were out in force at several points along the route, and at each blockade we thought they would stop us. They had blocked off the A303 for our benefit, and mostly just stood and watched us walk past. On the roundabout outside Amesbury dozens of buses and trucks were parked on the island, but vehicles were not allowed any further.

We reached Stonehenge still in darkness, police... ... helicopters kept watch overhead, playing the spotlight into the crowds. All around the stones were hundreds of police and they obviously had no intention of letting anybody near the stones.

Most of the walkers sat down to wait in a field next to the road, while some kept up a barrage of words with the police. The police were provocative, seemingly wanting a fight, and some of the crowd responded. Barriers were removed and passed back (not thrown as some reports say), bricks and bottles were thrown. The police reacted by calling in the rest of their reinforcements, dozens of riot police in full gear. The sight of hundreds of people running towards you in total panic, being chased by police is one of desperation. It felt like we were fugitives, as if we were doing something wrong by being there.

They drove the crowd back, violently pushing and hitting people who couldn't move faster. Children and pets were lost in the chaos. I saw people next to me being dragged down and.....

STONEHENGE 88

..... beaten by the police, I could hardly believe what was happening.

As daylight approached, we could see the scale of the confrontation. There were over 1000 police and 5000 of us, from small sites all over Wiltshire. They swept the road and fields clean, and we started to walk the 6 miles back to the site. It was all over by 4:30am. The druids and elitist ticket holders carried on with their rituals undisturbed - the sun rose behind thick clouds.

No-one seems to have asked why there is trouble at Stonehenge. Before the Battle of the Beanfield in 1985, thousands of people had peacefully gathered there each year to hold a festival, and no permanent damage was done to the stones. We don't want to fight; but the police won't stop us trying to reach the stones on midsummers eve - the stones belong to everyone.

Ravenheart

MONOLITH

Distribution -
Mail order books and magazines. Plus posters and T-shirts.

Subjects including
Prehistory, Stone Circles, Archaeo-astronomy, UFOs, Ley lines, Pyramids etc.

SAE for a list from:
John Harrison,
2 Baggrave View, Barsby,
Leicestershire, LE7 8RB.

Be aware of the earths magic and the world around us. Rediscover lost energy and magic within.

A DAY IN THE DEATH OF AN INNOCENT BOY

AGE 5

"Come on dear! Eat your greens and you'll grow up to be a big strong boy!". His earliest memory was of a fork advancing towards him, loaded with spinach, and a soothing voice telling him how important it was to be big and tough and manly...

AGE 6

"Ooh! Look what your Uncle Billy's sent you! Aren't you a lucky boy!". Mum grinned insanely as he opened the parcel and found a toy machine gun. He was well chuffed. All his friends had them. Thinking nothing of the incredible destructive power of a real gun, he laid it on the pile with the action man, the meccano, and the cowboy outfit. Much better than his sister, she only got "soppy" things - dolls, toy iron, nurses outfit...

AGE 7

"Rocky VIII"...John Wayne in "True Grit"...Benny Hill...Bank Holiday TV is so good isn't it? "The A-Team", brilliant... "Gandhi", what's that about?

AGE 8

"Softy, softy, softy!". His so-called friends were chanting in unison and teasing him, because he'd lost a fight with someone. Kids can be so cruel sometimes. He felt intensely sad... If only he was bigger and...

...tougher. They might respect him if they were more frightened of him...

AGE 9

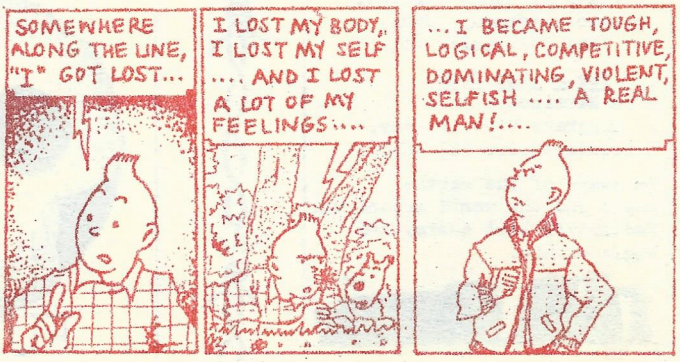
"Can I have a crisp please?", one of his friends asked. "No, bugger off!". It was his first experience of swearing. He had decided to try it to see if it gained him any respect, after all, the 'in-crowd' swore all the time. He felt powerful, in a way. No thought of how his friend felt of course, but that didn't matter so much...

AGE 10

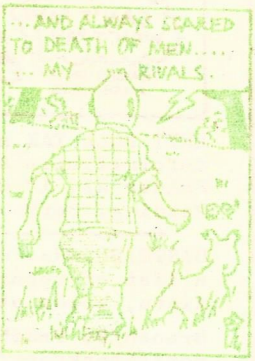
Going home from school one day he began to look at the magazines in a local newsagent. "Bodybuilder" (how to get the most from your body), "True Love" (is your boyfriend a hunk or a wimp?), "The SAS Survival Handbook". His favourite comic, "Oink", had been put on the top shelf so he couldn't reach it, so he reached for a copy of "Battle Action" instead...

AGE 11

He staggered in the front.....



A DAY IN THE DEATH OF AN INNOCENT BOY



.....door, with blood trickling out of his nose. He'd just had a tangle with the local bully, with painful consequences. Some girls had laughed at him and teased him. Well, he was pretty small, but he was bigger than them, so he'd hit one of them to salvage some of his ego. He had managed to hold back the tears anyway. His granny had always told him "big boys don't cry".

AGE 12

There he was, staring in utter disbelief and horror at the grotesque images in a magazine. It had been thrust on him by some giggling schoolmates. He soon learned that the only way to avoid being called a "poofter" was join in the ritual of giggling, leering and saying things he didn't even really understand. He felt sick, dirty and sad.

AGE 14

"Sod off, you wimp!". It was a fairly unceremonious ending to a short conversation with a girl he'd met on holiday. He was very sad because he'd thought she'd see what a nice person he was. Let down. Stabbed in the back. Maybe it was true - girls only like 'real men'. He didn't cry though, no-one was going to call him a softy.

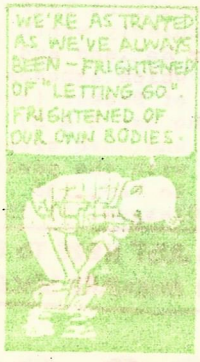
AGE 16

"Two pints of bitter mate"
"One pound fifty mate"
"Cheers mate!"
"Cheers mate!".

John handed him one of the glasses. "'Ere get this down yer neck", he said, with the proud grin of a sixteen year old who had passed for an eighteen year old in a pub. "Well go on then, don't be boring". The word "boring" did it, it was almost as bad as "soft". He didn't want to be soft or boring. He was beginning to wish he'd never come. He looked around the crowd of people - all sad, but pretending to be happy. He took a sip.
The Macc Lads came on the juke box - "Beer & Sex & Chips & Gravy"...

AGE 19

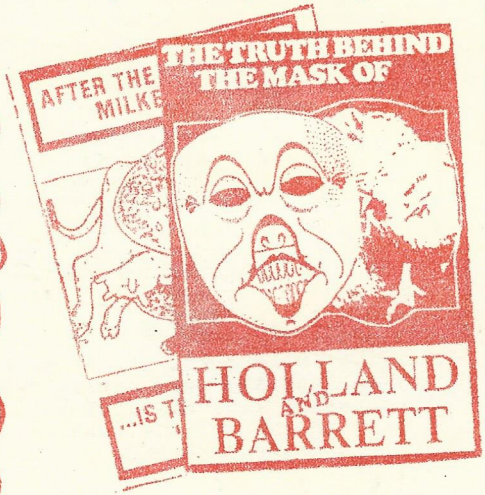
"MALE VIOLENCE STRIKES AGAIN", read the headline of a certain feminist magazine.
Our hero never read it though, he was put in prison. Five years for rape, a long time. If I'd been the judge - Mum, Dad, Granny, Uncle Billy, Sylvester Stallone, John Wayne, Benny Hill, the cast of the "A-Team", the director of the BBC, all his friends, the 'in-crowd', the editors of "Body-builder", "True Love", "SAS Survival Handbook", "Battle-Action" and the porn mags, the managers of W.H.Smith (who put "Oink" on the top shelf and "Battle-Action" on the bottom), the bully, the girls, the people in the pub, the Macc Lads, and anyone else who had polluted his innocence would all have got life for the rape of an innocent mind. Rape is a symptom of a sick society, it's everyone's problem, and if we want to stop rape, we have to stop breeding rapists.



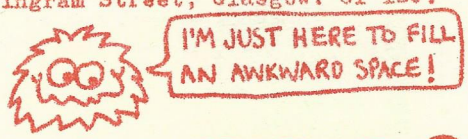
Colin

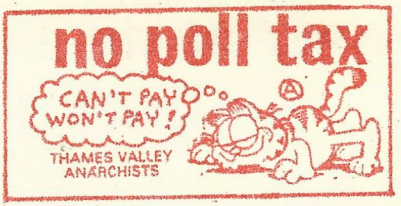
MORE VARIOUS THINGS...

AS I write this I'm waiting for the latest news about Tipi Village who were supposed to be being evicted this month (August 88). The last PoM was a benefit for them, if it turns out OK for them we may be able to send some of the money elsewhere, possibly Leeds Bust Fund. In the past we've sent money to London Greenpeace, the Vegan Action Group, Leeds Bust Fund and I'll hopefully send some to the Martin Foran Support Fund and more to London Greenpeace. This issue will probably end up as a benefit for Preston Hunt Sabs. So now you know where your money's going!



The VEGAN ACTION GROUP have produced some excellent leaflets, one particularly worth reading is their Holland and Barrett leaflet which exposes the involvement of Booker (the multinational who own H & B) in agribusiness and cash crops, and their links with the poultry industry. Write to VAG, 136 Ingram Street, Glasgow. G1 1EJ.





ANTI POLL TAX stickers and information:- Anti Poll Tax, Folder 21, 17 Chatham Street, Reading, Berks. RG1 7JF.

DISTRIBUTORS. Send an SAE for a list of records, tapes, zines, books etc...

Brench/86 Bramhall Lane/Davenport/Stockport/Cheshire/SK2.

Witchy Lok Wizz/Yan Tree/Box 184/52 Call Lane/Leeds 1.

Sunshine/c/o Raven/75 Piccadilly/Manchester/M1 2BU.

Perjury/c/o London Greenpeace/5 Caledonian Road/London N1.

Open Mind/2 Rossetti Road/Corby/Northants/NN18 0SJ.

Mutant Noise Corporation/Alan/38 Bowling Field/Ingol/Preston/PR2 7DB.

Tommy/Box Hope/Common Ground/1 Charlotte Square/Newcastle/NE1 4XF.

Thanks to all these folks for selling PoM for us. Anyone else who wants to sell PoMz just get in touch. Ta.

AN ADVERT ZINE is starting up for people to advertise their records, zines etc... more details from Dean, 12 Tyne dale Ave, Kings Estate, Wallsend, Tyne & Wear, NE28 9LS.

PoM 3 is still available for 20p & SAE. Includes articles on living simply, animal lib, love, poetry, cartoons and loads more.

NONAME - Interesting magazine, festivals, news, politics... 25p & SAE from Moonglow, P.O. Box 512, Preston. PR5 6XL.

NO POLL TAX

There's no point in pretending that a life based on gigs, booze-ups and your next giro will change a thing. Yet many people in the "alternative scene" seem to do just that, not realising that if a better world is to be created then it will have to be done with our own hands. It's not as simple a as destroying the present system, we've got to replace it with something better.

How many supposedly radical people spend most of their money on booze, fags and gigs then complain that they're broke? Obviously I'm not saying 'boycott all drugs and gigs' but maybe if some of the time and energy put into going to gigs etc... was put into more worthwhile activities we'd stand a chance of actually changing something. Surely we can think of something more positive we can do to try to change what we complain about so much?

But if we don't get up to something slightly more revolutionary than going to gigs and getting drunk all the time then we've only ourselves to blame when we realise we've left it too late.

John

WHERE'S THIS REVOLUTION?

Where's the revolution -
in a roomful of drunk punks?
And where's the activity
in an anarchist theory meeting?
And where are the real people
under the camouflage
and disguise?

The rebels uniform,
do you conform?

The revolution's not about
lying or hiding
or tripping or drinking
Or repeating the slogans
without even thinking

It's about people's honesty
with themselves
and the love we need
to be true and real and free

Our revolution's in a friendship
and in a song or a dance
in a shared moment of discovery

Ravenheart

This article and poem, along with another article has been printed up as a small leaflet for distribution at gigs, through your mail etc... If anyone wants a bundle to distribute then just write to the PoM address (page 2) and I'll send you a load. Say about how many you'd like because there's no shortage of them! Thanks.

RECLAIMING SOMETHING REAL

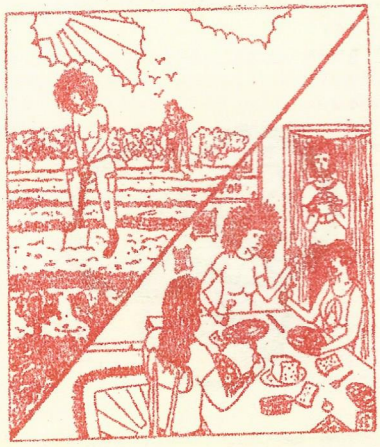
A PERSONAL ACCOUNT OF CULTIVATING AN ALLOTMENT

As any economist will tell you, the central pillar of capitalism is the law of supply and demand. We, the passive consumer, create the demand, and ever increasingly, the supply is furnished by multi-national corporations seeking to expand into every possible area, corner every market. The case against these mega-conglomerates; Unilever, Allied Lyons, Shell, RTZ, BAT, Ciba Geigy, ICI, has been well documented in the pages of "Peace of Mind", and in books and pamphlets such as "Food For Beginners" by Susan George and Nigel Paige (Readers and Writers Books), Chumbawamba's "Dirty Fingers In Dirty Pies" and "Why Aid?" (available from Manchester Anarchists, c/o Raven, 75 Piccadilly, Manchester M1 2BU) or London Greenpeace's Unilever and McDonalds factsheets (available from 5 Caledonian Road, London N1).

Yet even when we reject these companies, choosing a vegan diet or a multinational boycotting lifestyle, too often we still remain passive consumers. A packet of vegeburgers or a can of baked beans is still a commodity, our relationship to one of the most important aspects of our lives, that is, how our food is produced, is still one of being distanced from an understanding of where it actually comes from. The work and the skills, conditions and processes that go into making seed successfully germinate into food we can eat is surrounded in mystery, and what's more, we're not, on the whole, in the slightest bit interested provided that the health food shop keeps supplying the goods.

We remain as capitalist dynamics rely on us to remain, alienated from a real understanding of everyday life.

Therefore, I would argue, one of the most radical acts we can take on an individual level is to cut out that process of alienation, to take knowledge out of the arenas monopolised by the specialists and experts and re-learn all the skills that are essential if we are to ever truly take control of our own lives; how to house and build for ourselves, how to heal ourselves, how to create energy for ourselves, and how to feed ourselves.



A few years ago discussions of the ideas outlined above resulted in about ten members of the local Anarchist group aquiring an allotment and set about cultivating it. For most the enthusiasm waned within weeks, and four years later I'm alone on that allotment, but prefer it that way, cultivating and working it whenever and however it suits me.

This article is largely a personalised meander through some general principles with a few tips I've found useful thrown in. My hope is that readers will find it inspirational or at least interesting, and that those who are seriously thinking...

RECLAIMING SOMETHING REAL

... of taking those first faltering steps towards self-sufficiency will be encouraged to find out more, and hopefully avoid a few mistakes that I have made.

The official way of going about obtaining an allotment is by writing to the local authority who will put you in touch with the allotment society. We had the good fortune to have a friend who knew of a vacant allotment near the plot he works, we simply took it over and paid the annual rent of £10 when it became due.

Approach your allotment realistically. Don't expect too much in the first couple of years, you'll be learning, making mistakes, obtaining the wisdom of the spade. If you are doing it alone, aim to cultivate no more than say, a quarter or a third of the plot in the first year. A small area dug over thoroughly will give far more satisfactory yields than a large area where you have tried to do too much and simply exhausted yourself.

On an allotment you will meet no end of "old boys" who will never tire of telling you that "you only get out of the soil what you put in". They are right. And it is for this reason that I adopted organic gardening. Chemical fertilisers will give you quick returns. They will also increase the level of toxins and poisons in your body, and in a comparatively short time degrade and make lifeless the topsoil. To garden inorganically is the small scale equivalent of the short sighted ness of strip mining or deforestation that is practiced by the multinational corporations, raping and plundering in their search for instant profits.

On the other hand, the organic gardener is the ecological gardener, mindful of the delicate systems of nature and careful not to pollute, upset or over-exploit these balances.

As a vegan , I also reject plant-foods and manures that most organic gardeners may take for granted, such as fish, blood and bone meal fertilisers and, perhaps less obviously, animal manures which I see as being a by-product of the animal abuse industries. 'Green' manures are provided by crops such as comfrey which can be either dug in or rotted down in rainwater with nettles to provide a combined plant food and insect repellant, or agricultural mustard and vetches (tares) which I am trying out for the first time this year. Seaweed also acts as a fine organic fertiliser which builds lasting humus in the soil. I am fortunate in living on the Thames estuary, where it is washed up on the beach in large supply every autumn, but for those living inland, Chase Organics provide concentrated seaweed meals and liquids by post.

RECLAIMING SOMETHING REAL

... Organic compost is made from any kitchen or garden wastes (weeds, lawn mowings, onion skins, cabbage leaves) piled into heaps and left to break down. There are brands of compost activator on the market, but I find House hold Liquid Activator to be effective, which consists of one part urine to 3 parts rainwater. Leafmold is also valuable in the soil, providing both food and building up the humus, collect as many dry leaves as you can in the autumn, leave them to be broken down by worms and bacteria over a year or so, then simply dig in.

It is good, basic practice to rotate the four main categories of crops, these being potatoes; brassicas, which includes cabbages, sprouts, broccoli, kale, cauliflower and also radishes, turnips and tomatoes; root crops such as beetroot, carrots, onions, parsnips, swiss chard and lettuce; and the legumes - broad beans, peas, runner beans etc. The two main reasons for crop rotation are 1) prevention of diseases such as clubroot or eelworm which will build up in the soil when the same crop is grown in the same place year in, year out, and 2) that the food requirements of the various plant groups are different. I don't want to start getting technical, but briefly, potatoes and the brassicas are heavy feeders requiring plenty of moisture retaining compost and green manures such as dug in comfrey. These could be followed by, say, a legume such as peas, which have bacteria in their roots that fix nitrogen in the soil. The root crops should then find most of their nutritional requirements in the lightly forked soil that follows the peas.

The main planting season is from March to April, although seeds can be sewn indoors in potting compost during January and February in order to get a head start on the weeds that will inevitably plague you. Therefore it is important to have the area that you have decided to cultivate prepared by this time, which means plenty of digging through the late autumn and winter months. This is probably the time you'll wish you hadn't bothered, when the cold is numbing your fingers or the fog is plastering your mohican across your face, and every spadeful seems to weigh a ton. But in the spring the earth should just need a light forking over, treading down and raking to a fine tilth ready to be seeded. The real joy comes one late afternoon when the sky is blue, the sun is dropping low and you are alone with nothing but your thoughts, the rhythm of the fork and the song of a solitary thrush (or if you prefer Heresy and Napalm Death bootlegs on your personal stereo that's your business!), or preparing a meal with the fresh, organic tomatoes, leeks, peas, parsnips, potatoes or strawberries you have produced.

As well as being immensely satisfying (and cheap!), growing your own food is a political act. Sooner or later, the world economic system WILL crack, and the West will no longer be able to support itself on the backs of the 'Third World' countries...

RECLAIMING SOMETHING REAL

...We will have to start looking to our own resources to feed ourselves adequately, and radically rethinking our use of the land as well as other attitudes to the environment.

The "Dig For Victory" campaigns of the two world wars showed that Britain can feed herself with judicious land management. In the latter part of the twentieth century we must think in terms of Dig For Revolution if we intend to live without plundering the resources of our sisters and brothers in the 'Third World'.

The movement of land for the people has had a highly radical history, ever since the breakdown of feudal society around the 16th and 17th centuries when much of the peasant class found themselves dispossessed. Alternative and by all accounts colourful societies composed of cultivators, labourers, beggers and poachers grew up, squatting and eking out a living away from the villages and attentions of the landowners. Many, who called themselves the Levellers, took more direct action, breaking down the fences and hedgerows with which the ruling classes had enclosed 'their' land.

Allotments were set aside at the start of the 19th century in response to demands for common land for the people following the enclosure of about 5 million acres, but the laws which supposedly protect these areas where we can take back some measure of control over our own lives are being increasingly ignored as back-handers are exchanged from the property developers to the council chambers, and the bulldozers and concrete transform the common treasury into Superstores, factories, housing estates and motorways. The time is coming when maybe WE should be thinking in terms of ignoring the laws, and reconsidering the idea of squatting land.

In 1649 the Diggers occupied St.Georges Hill near Cobham hill in Surrey. They cultivated this land for nearly...

GROWING CHART

	SOW SEEDS, ETC	PLANT OUT	HARVEST	DISTANCE BETWEEN ROWS (INCHES)	YIELD PER 10' ROW (LBS)	METHOD OF WINTER STORAGE
CABBAGE	MARCH, MAY OR AUGUST	JUNE, JULY OCTOBER	JULY, JAN, MARCH	24	15·0	PICKLED
BROAD BEANS	FEB - MAY		OCTOBER	20	5·0	DRIED
RUNNER BEANS	MAY - JUNE		JULY - OCT	24	15·0	SALTED
BEETROOT	APRIL - JUNE		OCT - MAY	8	9·0	IN PEAT
BROCCOLI	MARCH - MAY	JULY	NOV - MARCH	24	9·0	
BRUSSEL SPROUTS	MARCH - APRIL	MAY - JUNE	NOV - MARCH	24	5·0	
CARROT	APRIL		OCTOBER	8	10·0	IN PEAT
LEEK	APRIL	JULY	NOV - MARCH	12	7·5	
LETTUCE	MARCH - AUG		MAY - NOV	8	7·5	
ONION	MARCH		SEPT	8	8·5	HANG IN BUNCHES
PEA	MARCH - JULY		JULY - NOV	24	6·5	DRIED
POTATO	APRIL		APR - OCT	27	15·0	SACKS OR BOXES
RADISH	MARCH - SEPT		APR - OCT	9	1·5	
RHUBARB	PERMANENT BED			36	10·0	
SPINACH	FEB - AUG		MAY - MARCH	9	5·0	
TOMATO	APRIL - MAY		AUG - OCT	36	20·0	BOTTLE

RECLAIMING SOMETHING REAL

... a year before being brutally forced off by the local gentry. I shall leave the final words of this article, as true today as then, to their leader, Gerard Winstanley: "Take notice that England is not a free people till the poor that have no land have a free allowance to dig and labour the commons and so live as comfortably as the landlords that live in their enclosures. And that not only this common or heath should be taken in and manured by the people, but all the commons and waste ground in England and in the whole world shall be taken in by the people in righteousness, not owning any property but taking the earth to be a common treasury".

Graham Burnett

FURTHER READING:

Organic Gardening by Lawrence Hills (Penguin). The classic manual on the subject.

The New Vegetable Grower's Handbook by Arthur Simmons (Penguin). Originally written as the "Dig For Victory" manual, mainly follows organic principles, ignore the bits that don't.

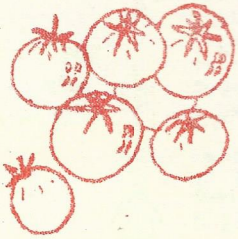
ADDRESSES:

Chase Organics, Coombelands, Addlestone, Surrey KT15 1HY.
Supply organic seeds, also a wide range of organic fertilisers, compost activators, gardening aids and so on.

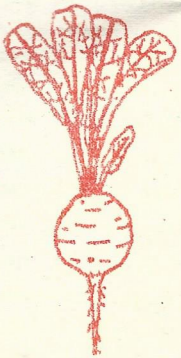
Henry Doubleday Association, Convent Lane, Bocking, Braintree, Essex CM7 6RW.
Carry out research into organic vegetable growing, also run a seed bank of rare and uncommon seeds and have several publications available.

Bio-Dynamic Agricultural Association, Woodman Lane, Clent, Nr.Stourbridge, West Midlands DY9 9PX.
Promote bio-dynamic gardening which aims to work in harmony with all the forces of nature. Aim to farm within complete ecosystems incorporating pasture, ponds, hedges, orchards and woodland.

The Socialist Countryside Group, Tidy's Cottage, School Lane, West Kingsdown, Sevenoaks, Kent TN15 6JN.
Campaign against the government sponsored destruction of the countryside, and to make the countryside a safe, sustainable resourse for the whole population. Have several useful pamphlets available.



This article is taken from a pamphlet produced by Graham which also contains sections on pest control and seed patenting, and gardening tips. You can contact him at 126a Westcliff On Sea for a copy. I'm sure an SAE would be appreciated.



COMMUNICATION

I think that communication is one of the most important, positive and valuable things available to us all that can contribute to building the sort of world that I and many others dream of.

People often say they do not get on with somebody because thay have little in common. This sounds like negative crap to me. We all have one thing in common - life, and one's own experience of life can easily be shared with another person, no matter how strange or different we may decide they are.

Once everyone realises we are all on this planet together and if it dies all life dies I think a big step towards the "new age" (or whatever you want to call it) will have been achieved. Why call someone a pratt or whatever when in fact what they are is another person, another part of the life that the earth supports.

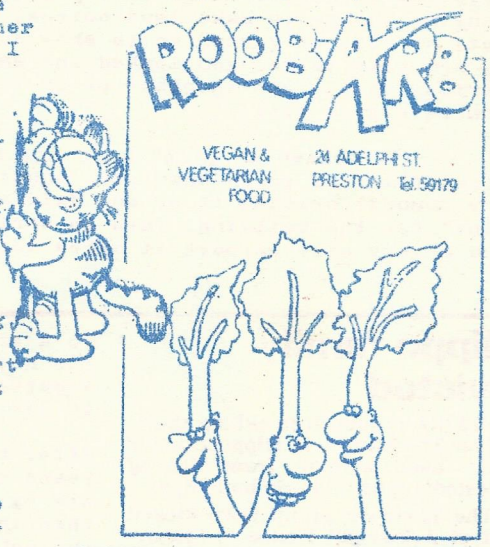
Through the simple means of communication e.g. writing talking we become aware of what we are i.e. a single part of the planet but also a part of everything and everyone else. We are each other and everyone is us. So why do people find it hard to say hello to a stranger? I try to do it everyday and when someone smiles back a step has been taken. We must all act seperately yet as one. Today I made two new friends.

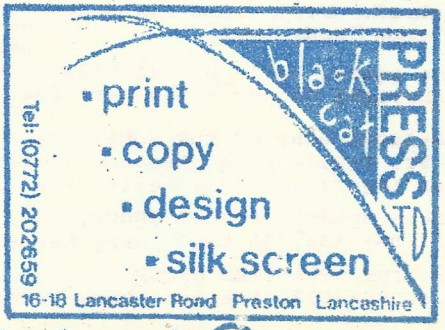
Also I think that in communicating we do indeed discover our true selves - each time we meet someone we have met before we recieve something from them, on a non-material level, such as a smile or a few words. We ... then discover our own worth/validity as a person. We find out that we ARE. Then we start to think that other people ARE as well. Imagine the whole world full of friendly people - how happy would you be? It really is great fun to be alive (compared to being dead!) Think about it. Then share your new-found joy with other people.

To experience the rain, sun or wind is beautiful. Share it with someone. The world is just one big community, don't let yourself become an isolated member of that community - get in there! Make a friend today!

Love, peace and energy,

Russ/11 St. Augustine Road/
Southsea/Hants/PO4 9AA.





A SPLASH OF LIFE!

In Leeds on a very apt day, April 1st 1984, a group of disillusioned, idealistic and angry people carried out an idea and squatted the old rates building. Although time there was short, the communication and cooperation of everyone involved was staggering.

So much positive thought and energy seemed to make the whole building smile and greet it's new found friends. There was talk and action, like building a skatepark in the cellar, a gig room, tool cooperatives, meetings and lots of food and noise.

The rates building was renamed the Urban Renewal Centre, and it was hoped to promote more information about homelessnese, empty houses and council and landlords misuse of people. And hopefully provide a focus point to show just what can be done by people working together.

Unfortunately the URC was situated in a prominant and highly visible place, opposite a large police station and next to the new court buildings. After four days the eviction order came through and on the day itself the squatters held a mass eviction carnival. There were people hanging out of windows, banging things to make loud noises, throwing streamers etc, and lots of friends turned up to show support. Even a few passers by actually talked and looked and saw something very funny yet serious, happy and spontaneous in the centre of quite a drab concrete grey city.

"A splash of life" said one banner, and it was! Sadly the black flag was taken down, the squatters left for other places, the council bricked it up and said there were "plans in the pipe-line" for the building. Then in early 1988, it was knocked down, and a very nice carpark it makes too!

Yan Tree

Hippo family evicted

A GANG of squatters calling themselves The Family B. Hippopotamus have been evicted from one of Preston's most historic buildings.

The 20-strong group were kicked out of Arkwright House in Stoneygate after a repossesion hearing at Preston County Court.

In a similar incident in Preston, the historic Arkwright house was squatted for a month from 30th June to 31st July, 1988.

After being left empty for two years the huge building was put to use by "The Family B. Hippopotamus". When the eviation order came through squatting banners were hung out of the windows and the local paper came and did an article on the squat. We'll be watching carefully to see what happens to Arkwright House in the next few months.

ADVISORY SERVICE FOR SQUATTERS,
2 St. Paul's Road, London. N1 2QN. Tel 01-359 8814
For legal/practical advice, local contacts & "Squatters Handbook".

LEEDS HOUSING ACTION GROUP,
c/o Box ASS, 52 Call Lane, Leeds. LS1 6DT.

PRESTON SQUATTERS GROUP,
P.O. Box 172, Preston, Lancs. PR1 7BU.

60p + SAE ESSENTIAL READING!

ALL?.....OR

THERE'S SO MUCH SHIT IN THE WORLD THESE DAYS. THERE'S NO WAY OF SUMMING IT UP. THERE'S NO ONE CAUSE AND NO ONE CURE. BY CONCENTRATING ON JUST ONE PART OF THE PROBLEM, YOU'RE ACCEPTING ALL THE OTHERS. TO FIGHT AGAINST JUST ONE FORM OF REPRESSION IS TO ASK FOR ONLY ONE FORM OF FREEDOM. PEOPLE WHO SEEK INTERNAL FREEDOM AND NOT EXTERNAL FREEDOM ARE AS POINTLESS AS THOSE WHO SEEK TO CHANGE THE WORLD WITHOUT AT THE SAME TIME CHANGING THEMSELVES, AND AS LIMITED AS THOSE WHO SEEK TO CHANGE THEIR OWN SITUATION AND NOT THAT OF OTHERS. EVERYTHING IS SO CLOSELY LINKED THAT ONE CANNOT BE GAINED WITHOUT THE OTHER. IT'S A CASE OF ALL OR NOTHING. SO WE SHOULD REALLY BE FIGHTING FOR EVERYTHING OR WE'LL BE FIGHTING FOR

NOTHING.....?

PHASES OF THE MOON